

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 8-11 are now pending in this application, with Claim 8 being independent. Claims 1-7 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and Claims 8-11 have been added.

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,116,363 (Fuchimukai). Claims 1-7 have been cancelled herein, thus rendering these rejections moot. Nevertheless, new Claims 8-11 are believed to be patentable over the citations of record for the following reasons.

As recited in independent Claim 8, the present invention relates to an image pickup apparatus including an image pickup device for converting an object image into an electrical signal, a chassis, and an exterior member. The chassis comprises first bent portions positioned at opposing ends of the chassis, a plurality of fixing members formed on the first bent portions in order to fix the chassis to the exterior member, and a second bent portion formed between the first bent portions.

Fuchimukai relates to a digital camera having a camera body 2, which includes therein a support member 3 provided with a mount frame 4. Three substrates 5, 6, 7 are secured to mount frame 4 and have increasingly greater widths from the upper substrate 5 to the lower substrate 7. While the mount frame 4 of Fuchimukai may have some bent portions, that mount

frame cannot be said to include first bent portions positioned at opposing ends, a plurality of fixing members formed on the first bent portions in order to fix the chassis to an exterior member, and a second bent portion formed between the first bent portions, as is recited in independent Claim 8.

Thus Fuchimukai fails to disclose or suggest important features of the present invention recited in independent claim 8.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejection are respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably defined by independent Claim 8. Dependent Claims 9-11 are also allowable, in their own right, for defining features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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